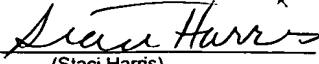




I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER147057685US, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: October 6, 2003

Signature:   
(Staci Harris)

Docket No.: HO-P02375US0  
(PATENT) *#7  
m.m.  
11/19/03*

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Paul R. Heaton, et al.

Application No.: 10/068,697

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: February 6, 2002

Examiner: Charesse Evans

For: ANTIOXIDANT COMPONENTS FOR  
REDUCTION OF NUCLEIC ACID DAMAGE IN  
COMPANION ANIMALS

### REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a two month extension of time to and including October 21, 2003 to respond to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2003. Our check in the amount of \$420.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2) is enclosed.

In the event that a further petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application does not become abandoned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. 10201221.

Dated: October 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



By  
Melissa W. Acosta  
Registration No.: 45,872  
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
1301 McKinney, Suite 5100  
Houston, Texas 77010-3095  
(713) 651-5151  
(713) 651-5246 (Fax)

10/14/2003 SMINASS1 00000054 10068697

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